HIS MAIESTIES LETTER.

TO THE

LORD MAIOR and ALDERMEN

OF

The Citie of *LONDON*,

WITH

The humble *Petition* of the Knights, Miniſters, Gentry *Free*-holders, and other inhabitants of the Countie of LEICESTER, *To the* KING.

Alſo the Reſolution of the whole Countie of *Eſſex*, Preſented to the LORDS and COMMONS aſſembled In *PARLIAMENT*:

Whereunto is annexed the Anſwere from the *Parliament*, and commanded by the LORDS to be forthwith Printed and Publiſhed.

John Browne. *Cler. Parliament.*

LONDON:
Printed for *Tho. Hewer* and *W. Moulton*, 1642.

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JUNE 1, 1916

CHARLES R.

To Our Trusty and Welbeloved, the Lord Major, Aldermen, and Sheriffes of Our Citie of LONDON.

TRusty and welbeloved We greet you well. Whereas We have received severall Informations of great summes of Money endeavoured to be borrowed of Our City of *London*, by some direction proceeding from both Our *Houses* of *Parliament*, and likewise that great labour is used to perswade Our Subjects to raise Horse, and to furnish money, upon pretence of providing a Guard for our *Parliament*: These are to let you know, that (notwithstanding any scandalous Votes which have presumed to declare our Intention of levying Warre against Our *Parliament*, and to lay other aspersions on Us, so fully disavowed by us in the presence of Almigty God, by Our severall Answers and Declarations) all Our desires and purposes are for the publike Peace, and that We have not the least thought of raising or using Force, except We are compelled to it for the defence of Our Person, and the Protection of the Law: And therefore We expect that you suffer not your selves to be mis-led by such vain and improbable suggestions, and do declare, That if you shall lend any summes of Money towards the reliefe of *Ireland*, (to which We have contributed all the assistance could be desired of Us, which way soever Money given and raised to that purpose is disposed) or towards the payment of Our *Scots* Subjects, We shall take it as an acceptable Service at your hands; but if upon generall Pretences contrived by a few Factious Persons against the Peace of the Kingdome, you shall give or lend any Money, or provide or raise any Horses or Armes towards the raising such a Guard, We shall looke upon it as the raising Force against Us, and to be done in malice and contempt of Us and Our Authority. And We do therefore straitly charge & command you to publish this our Letter to the severall *Masters* & *Wardens* of the severall Companies, that they may be assured that such Money as they shall lend out of their good affection to the Kingdom may be onely imployed for *Ireland* or *Scotland*, and not towards such Guards, which (in truth) are intended by the Contrivers of that Designe (though We beleeve many honest men seduced by them do not yet see their end) to be imployed against Us: And if you and they shall herein fail punctually and

severally,

severally to observe Our Command; We shall not onely proceed against the severall Companies for deceiving the Trust reposed in them; but against the particular persons, as Contemners and Opposers of Our Authority, and of the Law of the Land, in the most exemplary way the known Law of the Land shall prescribe to Us; And shall be compelled to question the Charter of your City, which We are willing, yet to beleeve (notwithstanding the barbarous and insolent demeanour of the meaner and baser sort) in a good degree to continue loyall to Us. And of your obedience to these Our commands We do expect and require a full Account; and of the names of such persons who shall oppose the same. Hereof fail you not as you will answer the contrary at your peril.

Given at Our Court at York *the* 14. *day of* June, *in the* 18. *yeer of Our Reign*, 1642.

To the Kings most excellent Majestie.

The humble Petition of the Knights, Ministres, Gentry, Free-holders, and many thousands of the Inhabitants of the County of Leicester, *who assembled on* Horse-fairdays, *ready to accompany this Petition, if they shall bee required.*

The humble Petition of the Knights, Ministers, &c.

WE humbly shewesh with one unanimous consent, that your Petitioners are loyall and obedient Servants of *Leicestershire*, situated in the middest of your Kingdome of *England*, and in the middest of our great fears and apparant dangers, by your taking up Armes and leavying Forces (as it is thought) against your Honourable, loyall, and Illustrious *Parliament*: thereby to root, to ruine and disappoint their manifest good and godly purposes: and the more fully to effect this designe, never heard of (except in the Reigne of the Eleventh of *Richard* the Second) you have (as we right-

ly conceive) by the ill advise of your pernicious Councell morgaged, pawned or sold the glory of the Land, the Jewels and Treasures of the CROVVN, which ought as highly to be prized as the MILITIA, or any Magazine whatsoever: the one chiefely serves to secure what is Yours in Possession; the other (being so easily parted with) abateth the lustre of your KINGDOME.

Therefore may it please your Majestie to hearken to the worthy and well-deserving Men of your Kingdome, your hopefull and our happie Parliament: and become more neere in person, and joyne in affection with your trusty and grave and solid Councell and great Court of Judicature, for surely that high Assembly with Gods Blessing and your assenting unto them can soone procure your and our safety, and annihilate all distractions and distempers.

And that you would freely consent or put our County (because we are in such eminent danger, Southward and Northward, having neither Castles or any other places of strength by Sea or Land, or approved friends besides the Parliament) in a posture of defence, and that you would recall your Warrants prohibiting our Trained bands to muster, the rather because we desire to follow the good example of our neighbour Country Men of *Lincolneshire* and others, and to joyne your selfe with your Parliament.

Otherwise when they shall declare and nominate the particular disturbers of Yours and Our peace, the procurers of your and our feares, jealousies and amazements out of their knowne experience, we shall take upon the boldnesse to remove from your Majesty such prosecutors as are enemies to the State, and hinderers to the tranquility of the same.

Therefore we your dutifull faithfull Subjects and servants humbly sue, that your Majesty would accord with

your

your Parliament, and comply with them to reſtraine the violent malice of the blood-thirſty Rebels in *Ireland*. To ſettle a Godly, Learned and Induſtrious Miniſtry. To Diſarme the Papiſts ſeeing they rejoyce in this diſcord, and inſolently ſpeake words full of Arrogancy. To ſeparate from you that ſubverting Councell who dare not ſtand to the goodnes of their Cauſe nor can indure the Teſt. To caſhire thoſe Cavaliers and other unneceſſary undependants. Fully and cleerely to acquit the Lord *Kimbolton*, and other the worthy Members of the leaſt ſuſpition of Treaſon againſt your Majeſtie or State, one of them being chiefly intruſted for the good and welfare of our Country. To beleeve in the faithfulneſſe and Loyalty of your Parliament, who regulates the oppreſſions of your Kingdome. And other the premiſſes.

And we with our lives, and Eſtates, and Fortunes ſhall bee obedient, and loyall unto your Majeſty.

June the 18. And pray, &c.

To

To the Right Honorable the Lords and Commons assembled in the high Court of Parliament.

The humble Reprommission and Resolution, of the *Captaines* and *Souldiers* the Trained Bands, and other Inhabitants of the County of Essex.

With the Answer thereunto annexed and commanded by the Lords to be forthwith Printed and published.

Humbly sheweth;

THAT we having with joy and admiration, observed the wise and gracious Passages and Proceedings of this *Parliament*: and the pious, tender, and affectionate care of your Honors, for the preservation of the Peace and Honour of his most excellent Majestie, and these three thrice happily united Kingdoms; represented to the World in your severall Ordinances, Declarations, Votes and Remonstrances, sufficient to stop the mouth (if it were possible) of envy and malignity it self) cannot but with grief and indignation wonder to heare, that there should yet be found, & that even about the Regal Throne, such unnaturall & evil affected spirits, and malignant Councellors, who, desirous to swimme to the haven of their ambitious hopes, in the blood of their dearest Friends and Country-men, doe continually instill into his Majesties Royall breast, a sinister conceit, and mis-interpretation of your most Humble and Loyall Af-

Affections, and noble Actions, and Undertakings.

Wherefore we understanding (not by mis-information of lying reports, but) by the late Votes and Declarations of both your Honourable Houses.

That his Majestie seduced by wicked Counsell intends to make Warre against the Parliament: That so to doe is a breach of the trust reposed in him by his People, contrary to his Oath: And that whosoever shall serve or assist him in such Warres, are Traytors by the Fundamentall Laws of this Kingdome.

And withal perceiving your most Christian & Heroical Resolutions to persist in your Honourable Endeavours for the publique safety, though you should (which God avert) perish in the worke. Wee thought it our duties most humbly to represent to your Honours, the faithful affections and inviolable resolutions of our souls to *Stand or Fall, Live or Die*, together with you: According to our PROTESTATION.

Thus with our hands upon our Swords, we stand ready at your command, to performe our Vows to God and Oathes of fidelity to his Majestie, In taking up Arms against those false Flatterers, and Traytors: who abuse his Royall Favour, intending under the glorious Title of his Name and Standard, to fight against the Peace and Honour of their Soveraigne, against Religion, and the Lawes: and to make a prey and spoyle, of three flourishing Kingdoms at once: And to spend our dearest blood in the defence of the lives, & liberties of our Countrymen; the Lawes which are the life of our liberty; and Peace, Religion more precious then both; and the King & Parliament. In whose lives lies bound up the life of all the rest. Whosoever is otherwise affected, wee hold him not worthy the name of a Souldier but a *Prodi-tor* of his King and Country to all Posterity.

Lastly, finding a multitude of well affected People, whose hearts are good to joyne with us but want

Arms

Arms we moſt humbly crave, That Reſtitution may be made of thoſe Armes, which were taken out of their County; either out of the ſtore lately arrived from HVLL; or otherwiſe as to your moſt excellent Wiſdome ſhall ſeem beſt.

And wee ſhall ever Pray,

The Lords Anſwer to the Eſſex Petition.

MY LORDS have taken your Petition into conſideration, and receive much contentment in the good affections you have expreſſed, and doe give you heartie and extraordinary thanks, thus ſeaſonably and neceſſarily, for the good of the King and Kingdome, and of their Lordſhips encouragement in the performance of their duty; and the Lords doe aſſure you, that God willing, they reſolve to inſiſt in their former declared Reſolutions, for the upholding of the true Religion, the Kings Authoritie in the higheſt Court, which by ſundry late Declarations and practiſes to abuſe the people, they find ſo much vilified and invaded, the priviledges of Parliament, free Courſe of Juſtice, the Lawes and Peace of this Kingdom, notwithſtanding any dangers and hazards that for that cauſe can befall them. That for the manifeſtation of their good affections, and their Lordſhips kind acceptations thereof, they have commanded your Petition and the Anſwer, to be forthwith Printed and publiſhed.

Johannes Browne Cleric. Parliament.

This Reſolution was preſented to the Trained Bands, and Companies of Voluntiers, who appeared at Dunmow. *Jun.* 10. 1642. *And was received with univerſall Approbation, by holding up of Hands, throwing up of Hatts, and Acclamations: profeſſing, That they held them unworthy to live, that ſhould diſlike it. And it was within three dayes after, ſubſcribed with ten Thouſand Hands.*

FINIS.